AMENDMENTS

In the specification:

On page 15, please delete the paragraph on lines 21-31 and substitute therefor:

With the process and kits according to the invention – with or without use of a nucleic acid amplification – a new method for pathogen detection is made available. As indicated in the following (Table 1 and Table II), for example the 16S rRNA of many pathogen species already naturally contains a ~~5-'GAAA-3'~~ 5'-GAAA-3' ribozyme motif which can be used to form the hammerhead ribozyme. If the nucleic acids of the pathogens contain none of the sequence motifs suitable for the development of ribozymes, the former can, as indicated above, be introduced or "added" within the framework of the amplification stages by using suitable primers. (Table 1, 16S RNA region 70-100, SEQ ID NOS:44 and 53, respectively; region 115-145, SEQ ID NOS:19, 25, 54 and 83, respectively; region 145-175, SEQ ID NOS:20, 26, 32, 45, 55, 61, 71, 77, 84 and 90, respectively; region 180-210, SEQ ID NOS:33, 46, 62, 78 and 91, respectively; region 370-400, SEQ ID NOS:34, 47, 63, 72, 79 and 92, respectively; region 485-515, SEQ ID NOS:35, 64 and 93, respectively; region 595-625, SEQ ID NOS:21, 27, 36, 48, 56, 65, 73, 80, 85 and 94, respectively; region 625-655, SEQ ID NOS:28, 37, 57, 66, 81, 86, 95, respectively; region 650-680, SEQ ID NO:38; region 660-690, SEQ ID NOS:39, 67 and 74, respectively; region 685-715, SEQ ID NOS:22, 29, 40, 49, 58, 68, 75, 87 and 96, respectively; region 755-780, SEQ ID NOS:23, 30, 41, 50, 69, 76, 82, 88 and 97, respectively; region 895-925, SEQ ID NOS:42, 70 and 98, respectively; region 1000-1050, SEQ ID NO:51; region 1065-1095, SEQ ID NOS:24, 31, 59 and 89, respectively; region 1245-1275, SEQ ID NOS:43 and 60, respectively; region 1305-1335, SEQ ID NO:52) (Table II, 16S RNA region 70-100, SEQ ID NO:127; region 115-145, SEQ ID NOS:19, 144, 151 and 181, respectively; region 145-175, SEQ ID NOS:32, 99, 111, 119, 128, 137, 20, 145, 152, 158, 163, 169, 175, 182, 190 and 196, respectively; region 180-210, SEQ ID NOS:33, 100, 129, 138, 159, 164, 170, 176 and 183, respectively; region 370-400, SEQ ID NOS:34, 101, 130, 165, 171, 177, 184 and 191, respectively; region 450-480, SEQ ID NOS:112, 120 and 139, respectively; region 485-515, SEQ ID NOS:35, 102, 113, 121 and 131, respectively; region 595-625, SEQ ID NOS:36, 103, 132, 140, 21, 146, 153, 160, 166, 172, 178, 185, 192 and 197, respectively; region 625-655, SEQ ID NOS:37, 104, 114, 122, 133, 147, 154 and 198, respectively; region 650-680, SEQ ID NOS:38 and 105, respectively; region 660-690, SEQ ID NOS:39 and 106,

respectively; region 685-715, SEQ ID NOS:40, 107, 115, 123, 134, 141, 22, 148, 155, 161, 167, 173, 179, 186, 193 and 199, respectively; region 715-745, SEQ ID NOS:116 and 124, respectively; region 755-780, SEQ ID NOS:41, 108, 117, 125, 135, 142, 23, 149, 156, 162, 168, 174, 180, 187, 194 and 200, respectively; region 845-875, SEQ ID NO:143; region 895-925, SEQ ID NOS:42, 109, 118, 126, 136 and 201, respectively; region 1065-1095, SEQ ID NOS:24, 150, 157, 188 and 195, respectively; region 1245-1275, SEQ ID NOS:43, 110 and 189, respectively; region 1400-1430, SEQ ID NO:202)

On page 28, please delete the list of primers on lines 18-25 and substitute therefor:

Primer 1: 5'-AAT TCT AAT ACG ACT CAC TAT AGG GTG CTA TGT CAC TTC CCC TTG GTT CTC TCA-3' (SEQ ID NO:9)

Primer 2: 5'-GAA TCT CAT CAG TAG CGA GTG GGG GGA CAT CAA GCA GCC ATG CAA A-3' (SEQ ID NO:10)

Substrate A: 5'-TAMRA-Tga auc gaa acg cga aag cgu cua gcg u-FAM-3' (SEQ ID NO:11)

On page 28, please delete the list of primers on lines 29-35 and substitute therefor:

Primer 1: 5'-AAT TCT AAT ACG ACT CAC TAT AGG GTG CTA TGT CAC TTC CCC TTG GTT CTC TCA-3' (SEQ ID NO:9)

Primer 2: 5'-ACG TAG TTT CGG CCT TTC GGC CTC ATC AGC GTG CAG TGG GGG GAC ATC AAG CAG CCA TGC AAA-3' (SEQ ID NO:)

Substrate B: 5'-TAMRA-Tac gua guc cgu gcu-FAM-3' (SEQ ID NO:)

On page 30, please delete the paragraph on lines 1-3 and substitute therefor:

At its 3' end, the reverse primer contains the usual target-specific sequence (N) and in addition at its 5' end a sequence which codes for the general universal ribozyme motif: 5'-GCG TTT CGA TTC CNN NNN N... (SEQ ID NO:14)

On page 30, please delete the sentence on line 6 and substitute therefor:

The transcript ends with the sequence (SEQ ID NO:)

On page 30, please delete the sentence on line 9 and substitute therefor:

The ribozyme probe contained the following sequence (SEQ ID NO:):

On page 31, please delete the sentence on page 31, line 22, and substitute therefor:

Amplified segment of the HIV-RNA (SEQ ID NO:15):

On page 31, please delete the paragraph on lines 28-30 and substitute therefor:

(only one strand is shown, the primer sequences are underlined). The proximal sequence is likewise highly preserved and includes the following section (SEQ ID NO:16):

On page 31, please delete paragraph on lines 33-34 and substitute therefor:

The forward primer for the introduction of the T7 promoter sequence (upper case letters) and 1 point mutation (bold upper case letters) (SEQ ID NO:17):

On page 32, please delete the paragraph on lines 1-2 and substitute therefor:

The transcript product contains the GAAA ribozyme motif which is linked to the proximal HIV-specific sequence (SEQ ID NO:):